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CHRIS PRINCIPE

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

CHRIS PRINCIPE,	)	Case No. 8:17-cv-00608 JLS (KESx)
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	JOINT RULE 26(f) REPORT
v.	)	
TIMOTHY GLEN CURRY A/K/A	)	
TIMOTHY TAYSHUN,	)	
Defendant.	)	

On August 29, 2017, Howard A. Kroll of Tucker Ellis LLP, counsel of record for Plaintiff Chris Principe (“Principe”), engaged in a telephone conference with Daniel DeSoto of Law Office of Daniel A. De Soto, counsel for Defendant Timothy Glen Curry (“Curry”), to conduct their Conference of Parties pursuant to Rule 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Court’s August 7, 2017 Order Setting Scheduling Conference (“Order”).

The parties submit this Joint Rule 26(f) Report addressing the items listed in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f), and additional items listed at pages 2-5 of the Order.

**A. Statement of the Case**

Principe is a consultant in transaction banking, finance and technology. Principe’s career as a consultant also focuses on global trade using cryptocurrency and blockchain.

1 Principe is also the owner and publisher of Financial IT, an online and print resource for  
2 Financial Technology market analysis.

3 Curry has defamed and continues to defame Principe over the Internet and on  
4 social media by falsely claiming, and without any evidence, that Principe has engaged in  
5 criminal activity by being paid by, and working to support, a cryptocurrency named  
6 OneCoin Ltd. For example, Curry admits Tweeting, “Chris Principe on #Onecoin #ponzi  
7 payroll #PaidShill.” Curry also admits commenting on a blog entry that Principe “was  
8 bribed handsomely to join” OneCoin.

9 Curry consistently refers to OneCoin as a Ponzi scheme and a criminal enterprise  
10 in his Tweets and posts on the Internet. In many of Curry’s Tweets and posts, Curry has  
11 sought to destroy Principe’s consulting business and publishing business by sending  
12 Tweets to Principe’s Twitter handle @cmpleo and Financial IT’s Twitter handle  
13 @financialit\_net to ensure that followers of Principe and Financial IT’s Twitter feeds  
14 would see Curry’s false and defamatory Tweets. Curry has also used a series of hashtags  
15 in his Tweets to further more broadly disseminate his false statements. For instance,  
16 Curry uses hashtags such as “#onecoin” and “#ponzi” to tie Curry’s defamatory Tweets  
17 to other Tweets using the same hashtags.

18 Based on these false and unprivileged statements, Principe filed his Complaint for  
19 defamation, including defamation *per se*, and tortious interference with contractual  
20 relations.

21 Curry contends that his claims and assertions are true, and that Principe has been  
22 promoting a fraudulent Ponzi scheme that has harmed people worldwide and is the  
23 subject of criminal investigations worldwide. The statements are not only true, but  
24 privileged and protected. Curry also contends that Principe is a public figure, with less  
25 protections against defamation claims. Curry also contends that Principe suffered no  
26 economic injuries as a result of Curry’s actions.

## 27 **B. Legal Issues**

28 1. Were Curry’s statements false?

2. Were Curry's statements unprivileged?
3. Did Curry's statements accuse Principe of a crime?
4. Did Curry's statements falsely claim that Principe is associated or affiliated with a criminal enterprise?
5. Did Curry have any evidence to support his statements?
6. Were Curry's statements defamatory?
7. Were Curry's statements defamatory *per se*?
8. Did Curry know that his false statements would reach current or prospective clients of Principe?
9. Did Curry's statements induce Principe's clients to breach their agreements with Principe?
10. Did Curry's statements induce Principe's prospective clients not to enter into any agreements with Principe?
11. Did Curry intentionally interfere with Principe's contractual relationships?
12. Did Curry intentionally interfere with Principe's prospective economic relationships?
13. Is OneCoin a Ponzi scheme?
14. Is OneCoin a criminal enterprise under criminal investigations worldwide?
15. Did Principe promote OneCoin?
16. Did Principe promote OneCoin knowing it was a Ponzi scheme?

**C. Damages**

Principe has lost at least one client as a result of Curry's Tweets and blog posts. Principe will also need to spend money to repair his business reputation and correct the misleading and false statements made by Curry.

1 Unfortunately, Curry continues to defame and harass Principe over the Internet and  
2 on social media. As such, the amount of damages to Principe's reputation continues to  
3 grow.

4 **D. Insurance**

5 There is no insurance coverage.

6 **E. Motions**

7 Based on responses to discovery, Principe may add other defendants that have  
8 worked in conjunction with Curry to make false and defamatory statements about  
9 Principe.

10 **F. Complexity**

11 Principe believes that this is not a complex case. However, Curry believes  
12 discovery will be lengthy, as it will require discovery and depositions outside the United  
13 States.

14 **G. Status of Discovery**

15 Initial disclosures are set to be exchanged on October 13, 2017. The parties do not  
16 feel that any other changes in the disclosures under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a) should be made.

17 To date, no discovery has been propounded by either party.

18 **H. Discovery Plan**

19 Principe suggests a non-expert discovery cut-off date of April 13, 2018. Curry  
20 suggests a non-expert discovery cut-off date of October 19, 2018.

21 Other than conducting and completing non-expert discovery before experts are  
22 identified and deposed, the parties do not believe that discovery should be conducted in  
23 phases or be limited to or focused on particular issues.

24 The parties agree that electronically stored information should be produced in its  
25 native electronic format.

26 The parties do not believe that any changes should be made in the limitations on  
27 discovery imposed under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or the Court's Local  
28 Rules, nor do the parties believe that other limitations should be imposed on discovery.

1 The parties anticipate submitting a stipulated protective order with the Court.

2 **I. Expert Discovery**

3 Principle suggests an initial expert witness disclosure and report deadline of  
4 April 27, 2018, and a rebuttal expert witness disclosure and report of May 25, 2018.  
5 Principle further suggests an expert discovery cut-off date of June 22, 2018.

6 Curry suggests an initial expert witness disclosure and report deadline of  
7 October 26, 2018, and a rebuttal expert witness disclosure and report of November 23,  
8 2018. Curry further suggests an expert discovery cut-off date of December 28, 2018.

9 **J. Dispositive Motions**

10 At this time, the parties are not aware of any issue or claim that may be determined  
11 by motion for summary judgment or partial summary judgment.

12 **K. Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”) Procedure Selection**

13 The parties cannot agree on an ADR procedure. Principle suggests ADR Procedure  
14 No. 3 (private mediation), while Curry suggests ADR Procedure No. 2 (court mediation  
15 panel).

16 **L. Settlement Efforts**

17 Principle is reluctant to discuss settlement with Curry given Curry’s use of social  
18 media to publish communications and/or meetings between counsel.

19 **M. Trial Estimate**

20 The parties estimate this case being a 5 day jury trial.

21 **N. Trial Counsel**

22 For plaintiff Chris Principe: Howard A. Kroll

23 For defendant Timothy Glen Curry: Daniel A. DeSoto

24 **O. Independent Expert or Master**

25 The parties agree that there is no need for a master or an independent scientific  
26 expert to be appointed.

**P. Other Issues**

The parties are not aware of other issues affecting the status or management of the case.

DATED: October 2, 2017

Tucker Ellis LLP

By: /s/Howard A. Kroll

Howard A. Kroll  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
CHRIS PRINCIPE

DATED: October 2, 2017

Law Office of Daniel A. De Soto

By: /s/Daniel A. De Soto\*

Daniel A. De Soto  
Attorneys for Defendant  
Timothy Glen Curry

\*Pursuant to Local Rule 5-4.3.4(a)(2), the filing party attests that Defendant's counsel concurs in the content of this Joint Report and has authorized its filing with his electronic signature.

**EXHIBIT A****PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF PRETRIAL AND TRIAL EXHIBITS**

CASE NAME: Chris Principe v. Timothy Glen Curry aka Timothy Tayshun

CASE NO.: 8:17-cv-00608 JLS (KESx)

<b>Matter</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Plaintiff Request</b>	<b>Defendant Request</b>
Last Day to File Motions to Add Parties and Amend Pleadings	Scheduling Conference Date plus 60 Days	December 12, 2017	December 12, 2017
Fact Discovery Cut-Off	21 weeks before trial	April 13, 2018	October 19, 2018
Last Day to Serve Initial Expert Reports	19 weeks before trial	April 27, 2018	October 26, 2018
Last Day to File Motions (except <i>Daubert</i> and all other Motions in Limine)	19 weeks before trial <sup>1</sup>	April 27, 2018	October 26, 2018
Last Day to Serve Rebuttal Expert Reports	15 weeks before trial	May 25, 2018	November 23, 2018
Last Day to Conduct Settlement Proceedings	12 weeks before trial	June 15, 2018	December 14, 2018
Expert Discovery Cut-Off	11 weeks before trial	June 22, 2018	December 28, 2018
Last Day to File <i>Daubert</i> Motions	Expert Discovery Cut-Off Date plus 7 days	June 29, 2018	January 4, 2019
Last Day to File Motions in Limine (other than <i>Daubert</i> Motions)	Final Pre-Trial Conference Date less 28 days	August 7, 2018	January 29, 2019
Final Pre-Trial Conference (Friday at 1:30 p.m.)	3 weeks before trial	Sept. 4, 2018	February 26, 2019
Exhibit Conference (Friday at 3:30 p.m.)	Friday before trial	Sept. 21, 2018	March 15, 2019
Trial: Jury or court (Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.)		Sept. 25, 2018	March 19, 2019

<sup>1</sup> Trials are set on Tuesdays, Motions are heard on Fridays. Therefore, the Court sets motions filing deadlines on the Friday before the date specified in this column.